



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : West et al.

Serial No. : 10/017,685

Filed : 14 December 2001

For : Systems and Methods Employing a Bite Block Insert for Positioning and Stabilizing External Instruments Deployed within the Body

Examiner: L. Thanh

Group Art Unit: 3763

Patent #9/E+H
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This responds to the restriction requirement mailed January 29, 2003. An automatic four month extension of time to respond, up to and including June 29, 2003, which fell on a Sunday, is respectively requested. The requisite fee accompanies this response.

Applicant hereby elects, with right of traverse, the invention defined in claims 1-44 (Examiner's Group I).

Applicant hereby elects, with right of traverse, Species 4: Figures 4A-4E. Applicant states that claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19-22, 24, 25, 27-29, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 41, 42 and 44 read on Species 4. Applicant believes that claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 13, 16, 17, 20, 21, 24, 25, 28, 32, 35, 36, 39 and 42 are generic to Species 1-6.

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Respectfully submitted,

By

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